

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**MINUTES**

**The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District School Committee held a meeting on this date at 7:00 p.m. in the Exeter-West Greenwich Jr. – Sr. High School Library. Members present were Susan DeSack, Chairperson; Teri Cicero, Vice Chairperson; Gregory Coutcher, Clerk; Valerie Zuercher, Mark Rafanelli, and Robert Bollengier. Member Mary Walsh arrived at 7:06 p.m. Superintendent Thomas J. Geismar, Director of Administration Robert V. Ross, and Student Member Raymond Moore were present. Director of Special Services Carmella Farrar was absent.**

**ORDER – Chair DeSack called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all and Clerk Coutcher read the District Mission Statement.**

**Open Forum – None**

**Recognitions/Achievements – Girls' JV Volleyball – Superintendent Geismar announced that the JV Girls' Volleyball Team won the Division II State Championship. To honor this achievement, Superintendent Geismar and the School Committee presented each team member with a Recognition Award and gift certificate. Dr.**

**Geismar offered congratulations to the team and told them that he and the School Committee are proud of the way they represent the school and the community.**

**Member Walsh arrived at this time, 7:06 p.m.**

**Presentation – Student Member Report – Student Member Raymond Moore gave a brief overview of past, current, and upcoming sr. high school events.**

**Washington County Regional Planning Council Energy Program – Jeff Broadhead, Director; Maura Sayre, Program Coordinator – Superintendent Geismar introduced Jeff Broadhead, who is the Director of the Washington County Regional Planning Council (WCRPC) and Program Coordinator Maura Sayre to present information regarding the Washington County Energy Program. Mr. Broadhead provided members with informational packets and gave details outlining the WCRPC program, background, projects, plans, ideas, and proposals to improve energy efficiencies and save money for municipalities and school districts in Washington County. Mr. Broadhead requested the committee to authorize the Superintendent to sign a letter of support, (sample letter enclosed in informational packets) that allows WCRPC to apply for grants on the school district's behalf, as well as to procure Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) on the district's behalf. At the conclusion of his presentation, Mr. Broadhead confirmed Mr. Ross' summarization that**

**signing the letter will demonstrate due diligence at no risk of financial commitment. This item will continue to the next regular meeting agenda for a vote.**

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**ROUTINE ITEMS – CONSENT AGENDA- Superintendent Geismar gave an overview of the Consent Agenda.**

**Member Bollengier made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Member Rafanelli seconded the motion. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.**

**The following items were approved:**

**A. Approval of Minutes - Regular Minutes of November 10, 2009**

**B. Personnel Items**

**1. Appointments**

**2. Leaves of Absence**

**3. Resignations**

**4. Grievances**

**5. Non-Renewals**

**6. Recalls**

**7. Sabbaticals**

**C. Bills – In the amount of \$105,084.33**

## **D. Home School Approvals**

### **1. SHIPPEE – Samuel and Isabel**

#### **End Consent Agenda**

**Correspondence – (1) Resolution of the North Providence School Committee passed on October 28, 2009; (2) November 18, 2009 Education Week Article-Starting Gun Sounds for ‘Race to the Top’; (3) Three Correspondence Regarding Emergency Repair for main Electrical Switch J/SHS**

**Budget 2009 – 2010 – Director of Administration Robert Ross pointed out that his enclosed Monthly Status Reports references the 2009 – 2010 Budget Projection that will be ready at the December 8, 2009 School Committee meeting.**

**Monthly Status Reports – Members did not comment regarding the Monthly Status Reports.**

**Superintendent**

**Business**

**Special Education**

**Maintenance**

**Technology**

**Monthly Subcommittee Report(s) – Town Finance/Charter Review Subcommittee –**

**Member Rafanelli told the committee there was not time to get the Town Finance/Charter Review, (TFCR) subcommittee meeting minutes typed up for tonight's School Committee meeting. Member Rafanelli said that he would defer to Clerk Coutcher for a report/update because he was absent from the last TFCR meeting. Clerk Coutcher said the subcommittee heard a presentation from community member Lee Kissinger comparing Chariho Regional School District to Exeter-West Greenwich and they discussed the differences. The subcommittee agreed perhaps to look at changing the District Financial Meeting, (DFM) to an all-day referendum going forward. This would be more beneficial to parents. In response to Chair DeSack inquiry, Clerk Coutcher said that essentially the Public Hearing [which is usually ill attended] would become the budget informational session. Then perhaps taxpayers would be more inclined to attend the Public Hearing in order to make an informed decision if the district changed to an all-day referendum. Chair DeSack expressed some concerns she has with an all-day referendum process. Clerk Coutcher said that is only one idea the subcommittee will bring to the School Committee. He listed other issues mentioned about the DFM process such as the size of the auditorium, crowd overflow, and audio issues. Vice Chair Cicero said**

community members have expressed they would rather have a quicker, less confusing method for the DFM. In response to Member Walsh's inquiry, Clerk Coutcher said the subcommittee is presently working on the charter and not the budget formula. Member Bollengier informed the committee that the subcommittee will be voting on a number of ideas to bring to the School Committee.

**NEW BUSINESS – Actuary Services – Bid Award – Clerk Coutcher made a motion to approve the Actuarial Service Bid Award to USI Consultant Group. Member Bollengier seconded the motion. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.**

**Storage Building Payment – Superintendent Geismar said the School Committee allotted \$40,000 for the purchase of a storage building for the track and maintenance. After speaking with Sharon Pelser from EWG Sports for Kids regarding the building, she stated that the final cost for the building including installation will be approximately \$43,000 and that EWG Sports for Kids will pay for the cost beyond the \$40,000 allocated by the School Committee. The building will be erected and the School Committee will not incur any additional cost.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Policies – Review and Adoption - #6237: per Diem Substitute Teachers – Amendment – Clerk Coutcher made a motion to accept amended policy #6237. Member Walsh seconded the motion. Voted 7 – 0 in favor.**

**Member Bollengier requested to raise a point of order on the previous agenda item, Storage Building Payment. He asked for clarification whether the installation includes heat, water, and electricity because without those elements the storage building has**

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**limited value to Maintenance Director Bill Plumley and his staff. Chair DeSack said Dr. Geismar can find out and this item can be brought back to the next regular meeting agenda.**

**Transportation Update – Director of Administration Robert Ross reviewed the 2009-2010 Transportation Budget, EWG operated in-district and R.I. Department of Education operated out-of-district report. Mr. Ross said that he continues to work with TransPar, RIDE, and Ocean State Transit to get transportation costs in line with EWG’s transportation budget.**

**Draft 2010-2011 Budget Development Timeline – Member did not express any concerns regarding on the timeline.**

**Capital Project Update – Superintendent Geismar updated members on the capital project work that continues throughout the district. He referenced Correspondence (3) enclosed in members’ supplemental**

packets and reported that work will be done this Saturday to complete the emergency repair to the main electrical switch at the high school at a cost of \$11,850. The formal vote to approve the repair will come forward to the School Committee at its December 8, 2009 meeting.

#### **Reports/Comments – None**

**Important Dates and Meetings – Friday, November 13, 2009-Jr. High H1N1 Vaccine Clinic; Wednesday, November 18, 2009-Lineham H1N1 Vaccine Clinic;**

**Thursday, November 19, 2009-Town Finance/Charter Review Committee Meeting; Thursday, November 19, 2009-Evening Parent Conferences-J/SHS; Friday, November 20, 2009-Parent Conferences-No School Students; Tuesday, November 24, 2009-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, December 8, 2009-School Committee Meeting; Tuesday, December 8, 2009-Sr. High H1N1 Vaccine Clinic; Friday, December 10, 2009-Wawaloam H1N1 Vaccine Clinic**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – RIGL 42-46-4 and RIGL 42-46-5 – None**

**Adjournment - Member Bollengier moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Vice Chair Cicero seconded the motion. Voted 7 – 0 in favor. Meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.**



**ROBIN CERIO**

**CLERK**